

Pray, lifting up holy hands. . . .

—1 Timothy 2:8

1 SUNDAY (World Renew) *World Hunger Sunday*—In communities where poverty is prevalent, people often struggle to grow enough food, find clean water, rebuild after a disaster, and deal with injustice. Praise God with us for opportunities to come together as one in Christ, to love our neighbor, and to foster justice, love, and mercy in our work with partners and congregations.

2 MONDAY (Resonate Global Mission) *Cohorts*—Pray for young adults preparing to serve with Resonate cohorts in Detroit, Central America, and the Middle East. Cohorts provide opportunities for young adults to serve with a local grassroots ministry, live in community, and engage in deep spiritual formation. Ask the Holy Spirit to prepare these young adults for this discipleship experience.

3 TUESDAY (Race Relations) *Upcoming events*—Psalm 23 reminds us, “The LORD is my shepherd. . . . He leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake.” Please pray with us for these upcoming antiracism events: Ideology of Whiteness; Living Room Conversation with CRCNA staff; Conversations with Race Relations and Friends; Racism: Looking Back, Moving Forward (U.S. workshop); Cultural Intelligence Workshop.

4 WEDNESDAY (Back to God Ministries International) *Faithfulness*—A family recently shared that a radio sermon helped a soldier named John Navis while he was fighting in the Vietnam War. As we commemorate Veteran’s Day and Remembrance Day this month, thank God for his faithfulness despite the trauma of war.

5 THURSDAY (Calvinist Cadet Corps) *Growth*—Our “Dive into the Word” theme continues to encourage cadets and counselors to make a habit of reading the Bible and rejoicing in it. Please pray that despite uncertain times our counselors, clubs, and corps will have the capacity and patience to help boys become more Christlike in all areas of life.

6 FRIDAY (Resonate) *Mexico*—On university campuses in Mexico, students can face discrimination for their faith in Christ. Pray for Resonate missionary James Lee, serving with a local campus ministry in Queretaro, as he disciples university students. Ask the Holy Spirit to work through him to strengthen young adults in their walk with Christ.

7 SATURDAY (World Renew) *Nicaragua*—In Nicaragua, COVID-19 is spreading, but the government has issued no quarantines, shutdowns, or travel restrictions. World Renew and its local partner are working hard to bring life-saving prevention and hygiene information to rural areas where access to healthcare is especially difficult. As this new pandemic reality shows us how interconnected our world is, please pray for the vulnerable communities in Nicaragua.

8 SUNDAY (Back to God Ministries) *International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church*—Pray for our brothers and sisters who find themselves in situations where pressure and persecution from their government or family members become oppressive. Pray for strength and support for people like Imtiaz in India, who recently contacted our Hindi ministry team and shared that he is facing such pressures.

9 MONDAY (Calvin Theological Seminary) *Diversity*—About a third of our degree-seeking students come from outside North America. They come from 26 countries plus Puerto Rico. Twenty-seven percent of our students are women. It is a blessing to hear diverse stories of the church as we learn together. Give thanks and pray for the beautiful diversity of our seminary community.

10 TUESDAY (Resonate) *North America*—Resonate partner church plants and campus ministries in Canada and the United States are on the front lines of bringing the gospel in our communities and discipling new believers. Give thanks for the many people who have found a supportive faith community in CRC campus ministries and church plants. Pray for them as they disciple believers to be witnesses for Christ.

11 WEDNESDAY (Communications) *Veterans Day/ Remembrance Day*—Today we remember the sacrifice of the men and women who served and are serving to defend our nations. So many citizens have given their lives or have served and returned home forever changed by their experiences. Pray for an end to wars and injustices in our world.

12 THURSDAY (World Renew) *COVID-19 response*—Around the globe, millions of people are more vulnerable to the COVID-19 pandemic today than they were eight months ago. As Christians, we turn to God in times of fear and uncertainty just as we do in times of joy and celebration. Please pray that God’s heart of love, mercy, and truth may dwell in us and show us how to face these present challenges.

13 FRIDAY (Pastor Church Resources) *Church leadership*—As we head into the holiday season, pastors and ministry leaders face new challenges to create meaningful times of worship. They’re growing weary of having to both improvise and meet a wide range of expectations. Ask God to fill them with peace and to give them wisdom, strength, and energy in the weeks ahead.

14 SATURDAY (Resonate) *West Africa*—The Fulani people in West Africa come from a strong Muslim background, but Resonate missionaries are seeing people come to faith in Christ! Pray for Resonate missionaries as they disciple Fulani believers who are eager to grow in their walk with Christ and to share their faith with their neighbors.

15 SUNDAY (Chaplaincy and Care) *Chaplaincy Sunday*—Today churches throughout the CRCNA are taking time to pray for and encourage the work of our 153 CRC chaplains, who minister to over 2 million people every year in hospitals, hospices, counseling agencies, long-term care facilities, correctional facilities, community service agencies, veterans centers, the military, and corporate workplaces. Chaplains are called to be a light in the darkness, to bring Christ's grace, peace, and healing to people who need it most.

16 MONDAY (Resonate) *Costa Rica*—Pray for the community of Casa Adobe, an intentional Christian community that Resonate missionaries Jim and Ruth Padilla DeBorst started in Costa Rica. Casa Adobe is a home where people can grow in relationship with one another, their neighborhood, and God. Pray for their growth in discipleship in Christ.

17 TUESDAY (World Renew) *Cambodia*—On-site staff have reported that there are no new cases of community transmission of COVID-19 in Cambodia. We praise God that the government, health authorities, and relevant stakeholders are working together to keep the virus at bay with an emphasis on self-hygiene and social distancing. Join us in praying for the safety and health of our staff and partners and the communities they serve.

18 WEDNESDAY (Resonate) *Germany*—Resonate missionaries Mary Buteyn and David Kromminga work with newcomers in Berlin, Germany. Please pray for Mary and David as they disciple seekers and new believers. Ask the Holy Spirit to work through these discipleship opportunities to draw people to know Christ and his purpose for their lives.

19 THURSDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Today devotions*—Pray for Denny, who reads the *Today devotions* and writes, "I am incarcerated and am needing prayers for pain in my legs and hips. I'm needing a hip replacement, and thank God for giving me a new heart."

20 FRIDAY (Disability Concerns) *Caregivers*—This past month we gathered online for a series of meetings on caregiving. We thank God for giving us a space to learn, give support, make connections, and grow together as a community. We pray for ongoing strength and sustenance for all who are caring for others in so many different ways. We pray for peace, guidance, and ongoing strength for the journey.

21 SATURDAY (Raise Up: Timothy Leadership Training) *Stress*—Many church leaders around the world are feeling the emotional stress of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. People are lonely and anxious. Domestic abuse is prevalent. TLT produced a lesson, "God's Unfailing Love," to address mental and emotional stress arising from the pandemic. Pray for its successful distribution to ministry partners worldwide.

22 SUNDAY (Resonate) *Cambodia*—Pray for Resonate missionaries in Cambodia who disciple young leaders. Ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom and guidance in these important relationships. Ask God to work powerfully through these young leaders to strengthen Christ's church.

23 MONDAY (Kuyper College) *Growth and guidance*—During this season of Thanksgiving amid the challenges of COVID-19, we are humbly grateful to our Lord for his guidance,

provision, and care as we have experienced increased new student enrollment in ministry and service-minded areas of study. Give thanks with us too for new students from Nigeria and Chile, expanding our international student population.

24 TUESDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Japan*—Pray for our Japanese ministry team as they prepare for Christmas celebrations with their online audiences. Although they cannot meet in person, the team is excited to find new ways to bring a sense of community to believers across Japan.

25 WEDNESDAY (Justice ministries) *Advocacy*—Today begins sixteen days of advocacy against gender-based violence. Please pray that this campaign will raise awareness and change hearts and minds. Please pray specifically for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and that this cycle of violence in Canada will change.

26 THURSDAY (World Renew) *U.S. Thanksgiving*—We praise and thank God for his faithfulness and mercy in our lives, and for guiding and allowing us to serve brothers and sisters around the world in Christ's name. Thank God for the generous support World Renew receives to sustain its ministries. May God bless all individuals, churches, organizations, and government agencies supporting this work in various ways.

27 FRIDAY (Resonate) *Uganda*—Resonate missionary Josh Shaarda gives thanks for the ways God is working through Freedom in Christ disciple trainings that he is leading in Uganda prisons. Praise God that people are finding faith in Christ or recommitting their lives to him. Pray that believers who are released will also share the good news of Jesus when they return home.

28 SATURDAY (Safe Church) *Direction*—Safe Church is grateful for the leadership of director Bonnie Nicholas. As she plans to retire soon from her role with Safe Church, we ask God to continue to guide and direct her path. Please keep Safe Church in prayer as we continue to grow and work together with congregational and classis leaders to support the church.

29 SUNDAY (Worship Ministries) *Leaders*—Pray for worship leaders this Advent season. As churches plan worship gatherings in these unusual times, we ask the Spirit to guide them. Pray for clarity, creativity, and love with respect to all involved. May the celebration of Jesus' coming be the focus of the season. Pray that all may encounter *Emmanuel* ("God with us") in profound ways and be inspired, encouraged, and comforted.

30 MONDAY (Back to God Ministries) *Indonesia*—Every day Setia listens to sermons and songs broadcast on her radio by our Indonesian ministry, and every month she attends listener community meetings. Pray for Setia and others in her listener community. Pray that their time spent in God's Word and with God's people will give them strength in difficult times.

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